

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS30063C1 / H0066

This legislation creates a new section of Idaho Code, 18-5415, related to reporting abuse, neglect or the abandonment of children under the Child Protective Act (CPS). Currently a person who reports allegations to CPS that they know to be false or reports allegations in bad faith or with malice is subject to civil liability to the parties against whom the report was made. This legislation adds a misdemeanor criminal penalty for these types of reports.

FISCAL NOTE

There is no fiscal impact to the general fund to implement this legislation. If local governments were to prosecute persons under this new section, there are potential new costs to those local governments, but this legislation will simultaneously reduce the number of false reports to CPS, which will reduce costs of the department and local governments as they aid in CPS investigations.

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DISCLAIMER: This statement of purpose and fiscal note are a mere attachment to this bill and prepared by a proponent of the bill. It is neither intended as an expression of legislative intent nor intended for any use outside of the legislative process, including judicial review (Joint Rule 18).